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# **Berwick Quarterly Policing Report Oct to Dec 2021**



**Royal Canadian Mounted Police**

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# ***Kings District***

## **Kings District Employees**

Superintendent Dan Morrow, SWN District Policing Officer.

Inspector Kurtis Kamotzki, Kings District Commander

Staff Sergeant Rob Jodrey, Senior Operations NCO

Sergeant Mitch Pelletier, Operations NCO

Acting Sgt. Cpl. Dave GREENE

Forty general duty constables police Kings District as first responders. These officers are supervised by 8 corporals, 2 sergeants and 1 staff sergeant.

Kings East School Safety Resource Officer is Cst. Jennifer Britton.  
Kings West School Safety Resource Officer is Cst. Jeff Wilson.

Kings District General Investigation Section members are Cpl. Glenn O'Halloran, Cst. Kelly McPherson, and Cst. Jody Whiteway.

Kings District Street Crime Enforcement Unit members are Cst. Jason Sehl of Kentville Police Service, as well as Cst. Josée Lagace and Cst. Everett Smith of Kings District RCMP.

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault investigator is Cst. Melissa Lee. This is a temporarily-funded position.

Kings District Community Policing and Victims Services Officer is Cst. Kelli Gaudet.

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## **School Safety Resource Officers**

School Safety Resource Officers work as a resource to our local schools. Members provide presentations to every grade level from P-12 on current topics such as human trafficking, fentanyl, cybercrime, bullying, drug awareness and appropriate use of Social Media. Schools often request other presentations, which are customized to meet their needs. SSRO's update the National Safe Plan every year for each Kings County School. SSRO's do the initial investigation in cases that stem from schools. SSRO's also provide support for school events that occur after traditional school hours.

Cst. Wilson's service area is from Annapolis County line to Central Kings Rural High School, which encompasses 11 schools.

Cst. Britton's service area is from Coldbrook District School to LE Shaw Elementary and encompasses 12 schools.

Distracted driving presentations, Human Trafficking presentations as well as "lock down drills" have been ongoing at several schools throughout the reporting period.

Both district SSROs worked closely with the schools within the entire district. Both Cst. Wilson and Cst. Britton remain heavily involved in the delivery of the mandated objectives while assisting other investigations that require their skills and experience with youth.

### **SSRO Highlights**

SSRO Cst. WILSON continues to be active in the community with traffic enforcement and assisting with calls for service.

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## October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

The Internet and communication technologies provide Canadians, businesses, and institutions with the essential means to access information, offer services and create opportunities. Over the years, however, the exponential growth in these technologies has also increased the potential for cyber threats. Cyber criminals are increasingly targeting and exploiting Canadian citizens, businesses, and our critical infrastructure systems. Cyber capabilities, once rare and expensive, have now become commonplace and affordable. That, along with the borderless and anonymous nature of cybercrime, amplifies the pool of potential victims. Cyber security has always been important, but with more and more people relying on the internet for work, day-to-day tasks, business, social connections, financial services and more, it is vital that we learn how to keep ourselves safe.

October was Cyber Security Awareness Month and the RCMP asked Canadians to take time to learn about cybercrime, how to protect yourself, and what to do if you are victimized.

### What can Canadians do?

- Visit the RCMP's [Cyber Safety pages](#) and social media, as well as [Get Cyber Safe's](#) website. Follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for great cyber tips and information!
- Know how to report a cybercrime or cyber fraud. If an individual, business or organization experiences a cybercrime, they should contact their local police immediately. It's also important that they report the incident, whether they fell victim or not, to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre [online](#) or toll-free at 1-888-495-8501. Share the information you learn with those around you!

**What is law enforcement doing?** The criminal exploitation of new and emerging technologies requires new policing measures to keep pace in a digital era. Cybercrime investigations are complex and technical in nature. They require strong domestic and international partnerships, specialized

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investigative skills, and advanced tools and technologies. The RCMP takes cybercrime seriously and has a number of programs, units and teams actively working on it, including:

- National Cyber crime Coordination Unit (NC3)
- Federal Policing Cybercrime
- Cybercrime Investigative Teams including Cyber Capability Specialists from federal, provincial, local and international police
- Cyber Capability Specialists
- Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

The RCMP works closely with law enforcement partners and other lead security agencies, private and public sectors, including academia in Canada and abroad, to investigate and address cybercrime.

### **Quick facts**

- Cybercrime continues to be the cyber threat that is most likely to affect Canadians and Canadian organizations.
- It is estimated that only 5-10% of all cybercrimes and fraud are reported to police.
- The RCMP continues to see an increase in ransomware in Canada since June 2020, the National Cybercrime Coordination Unit (NC3) has received over 2,200 requests for assistance from domestic and international law enforcement partners. Of these requests, over 30% related to ransomware.

The NC3 and Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) are working together to implement a [new national cyber crime and fraud reporting system](#). The new system is currently live in a beta version and is accepting up to 25 reports per day. The system is expected to be fully operational by 2024.

### **Help Put Fraudsters in Their Place by Recognizing Fraud Alerts**

As in previous months the RCMP advises that fraud preventions can be achieved through awareness.

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Each year, Nova Scotians lose thousands of dollars from scams and the impacts can be devastating. According to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Nova Scotians lost more than \$1.4 million during 2019 and 2020 combined. Although there are many types of scams out there, there are warning signs, or fraud alerts, to look for.

"It's important to know that anyone can be targeted as fraudsters continue to find sophisticated ways to scam people out of their money", says Sgt. Andrew Joyce with the Nova Scotia RCMP Financial Crime Unit. "The impacts of fraud to an individual or business can be significant so it's important to know how to recognize the warning signs to protect yourself and your family members from these types of crimes."

If you receive a call, text or email with any of these common fraud alerts, proceed with caution:

**Payment type** – Fraudsters often request payment in cryptocurrency, gift cards or E-Transfer.

**Urgency** – Be suspicious if an email, text or phone call includes a sense of urgency.

**Unknown/Unsolicited** - Messages claiming to be from businesses or organizations that you have not dealt with previously.

**Threats** – Threats of arrest, deportation or suspension of your travel visa or your tax accounts if immediate payment is not made.

The best way to help prevent these scams is through awareness and education. Sharing this information with others may help someone from becoming a victim. For information about common scams and ways to protect yourself, visit: <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>.

Follow us on Facebook (Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Nova Scotia) and Twitter (@RCMPNS) for more tips. If you think you or someone you

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know has been a victim of fraud, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501.

## **Keep All Passengers Safe by Always Buckling Up**

Nova Scotia RCMP is reminding motorists to buckle up. Making sure that you and your passengers wear a seatbelt properly is the simplest and most effective way to protect everyone during a collision.

In 2020, the Nova Scotia RCMP responded to 27 serious and fatal motor vehicle collisions that involved individuals not wearing a seatbelt or wearing one incorrectly. As a way to help prevent unnecessary injury and death, the RCMP uses enforcement to encourage motorists to buckle up. Last year, RCMP in Nova Scotia charged 1,388 people for not wearing a seatbelt or not wearing one properly.

Strong traffic enforcement in the last few months have assisted in preparing motorists for the winter months ahead. It's well known that speed and icy road conditions increase the chances of motor vehicle collisions which can lead to serious injury or death.

"Seatbelts prevent you from being thrown out of a vehicle during a collision and they can greatly increase your chances of survival," says Cpl. Mike Carter with Traffic Services. "Collisions can happen in a split second so it's important to make sure everyone in the vehicle buckles up, every single time."

The Nova Scotia RCMP wants to remind motorists that a seatbelt should be used properly and be in good condition. A seatbelt should be worn as directed by the manufacturer (for example, a shoulder strap should not be tucked behind the back). Improperly wearing or altering a seat belt in Nova Scotia can result in the same consequences as not wearing one at all. Fines start at \$180 and add two points to your license.

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It is important to remember that a driver is responsible for ensuring that passengers under 16 are wearing a seat belt. Children can use an adult seat belt when they are nine years old or 4-foot-9 (145 cm). Otherwise, kids must be buckled in using a car seat or booster seat. Parents and guardians can help kids stay safe by enforcing and modelling good seat belt habits.

Nova Scotia RCMP asks every motorist to do their part to protect themselves and others by buckling up every time they get into a vehicle.

### **Annual Performance Plan**

The Kings District Annual Performance Plan runs from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Objectives of Kings District Annual Performance Plan are:

- **Safe Roads and Safe Highways in Nova Scotia** - To date (for the month of April), Kings District members have charged 8 people with impaired driving, issued 2 Roadside suspensions for alcohol consumption, issued 140 traffic enforcement charges and conducted 19 check stops.
- **Reduction of Cybercrime in Nova Scotia**  
Community resource officers and Senior Safety Coordinator continue to educate students and seniors on Cybercrime.
- **Reduce Crime Against People**  
Members continue to conduct physical checks on offenders/accused who are on court ordered curfews or house arrest with the goal to prevent recidivism. 70 checks were performed this month.
- **Intelligence led policing efforts**  
In 2020/21, Kings District senior managers recognized a lack of intelligence led policing efforts within the district. This is a national strategic policing priority of the RCMP and as such, efforts to improve in this area have been made through training and mentorship. This

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improvement has resulted in an increase in drug-related and property crime-related investigations within Kings District.

## Calls for Service

In the months of October to the end of December, Kingston RCMP responded to 163 service calls. See the attached chart for breakdown of the service calls.

Kings District Quarterly Crime types		Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
		2021	2021	2021	
<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>					
	Offences Related to Death	0	0	0	0
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0
	Assault	1	1	0	2
	Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction	0	0	0	0
	Robbery	0	0	0	0
	Extortion / Intimidation	0	0	0	0
	Criminal Harassment	1	0	0	0
	Indecent   Harassing Comm.	1	0	0	1
	Uttering Threats	0	0	0	0
<b>Property Crime</b>					
	Arson	0	0	0	0
	Break and Enter	0	0	0	0
	Unlawfully in a Dwelling House	1	0	0	1
	Theft Over	0	0	0	0
	Theft of Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0
	Theft of Other MV / Motorcycle	0	0	0	0
	Take MV w/o Consent	0	0	0	0
	Theft Under	2	0	1	3
	Shoplifting	0	0	0	0

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	Theft (mail, bicycle, et al)	0	0	0	0
	Theft from Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0
	Possession of Stolen Goods	0	0	0	0
	Fraud	0	0	0	0
	Identity Theft	0	0	0	0
	Mischief	4	0	0	4
<b>Drug Enforcement</b>					
	Possession	0	0	0	0
	Trafficking	0	0	0	0
	Import/Export	0	0	0	0
	Production	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	1	1
<b>Traffic</b>					
	Dangerous Op of MV	0	0	0	2
	Impaired by Alcohol	1	0	0	1
	Impaired by Drug	0	0	0	0
	Failure/Refusal	0	0	0	0
	Driving while Disqualified	0	1	1	2
	Fail to Stop or Remain	1	0	0	1
	Seatbelt Violation	1	0	0	1
	Intersection Violation	1	1	3	0
	Speeding Violation	9	5	3	17
	Insurance Violation	0	2	2	4
	Road Side Suspension (Alcohol)	0	0	0	0
	Road Side Suspension (Drug)	0	0	0	0
	Collision - Fatal	0	0	0	0
	Collision - Non - Fatal Injury	0	0	0	0
	Collision - Reportable	2	1	3	6
	Collision - Non Reportable	1	0	1	2
	Off-Road Vehicle Collision	0	0	0	0
	Municipal By-laws	0	0	0	0
	Other Traffic Offence/Violation	14	12	7	33
	Other Traffic Related Duties	0	0	1	1
	Checkstop	5	6	3	14

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<b>Other</b>					
	911 Call	6	0	1	7
	Breach of Court Order	2	0	0	2
	Liquor Act	0	1	0	1
	Mental Health Act	2	0	1	3
	Missing Person	1	0	0	1
	Municipal Bylaw - Other	0	0	0	0
	Other	13	7	10	30
	Suspicious P V P	5	1	1	7
	Trespass At Night	0	0	0	0
	HPA (COVID-19) - Offences only	1	0	1	2
	HPA (COVID-19) - Other activities	0	0	0	0
	QUA (COVID-19) - Offences Only	0	0	0	0
	QUA (COVID-19) - Other Activities	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Founded &amp; SUI Occurrences</b>		<b>75</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Total Occurrences*</b>		<b>80</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>163</b>

### Significant Investigations

The last quarter has seen a consistent level of calls for service. That said, there have been no significant investigations to report at this time. As you will see from the information provided below, members have been busy all over Kings District and have had a very good quarter in Berwick with stats being down. Keeping in mind that enforcement is being done throughout Kings District, these persons of interest could at any time come to Berwick to conduct their malicious activities. It's important to keep a global look at enforcement and how it impacts each of the communities. This shows that the work being done has a positive impact on the community. Things are heading the right direction.

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Cold weather and the new Covid variance OMICRON has kept people home and traffic down therefore reducing the call volume.

Members have been very busy with responding to various types of calls yet continue to be proactive with traffic enforcement limiting the serious incidences, especially with the change in the weather and road conditions.

## **RCMP Charge woman in two armed robberies**

Police file 2021-1533836

Kings District and West Hants District RCMP have charged a woman after armed robberies in Greenwich and in Windsor. On September 25 at approximately 3:40 a.m., police responded to a report of an armed robbery at a gas station on Wentworth Rd. in Windsor. Police learned that a woman had entered the gas station, threatened an employee with a weapon and demanded that they lay on the floor. The woman then stole money from the cash register and fled the area.

On October 12 at approximately 5:55 a.m., police responded to a report of an armed robbery at a gas station on Hwy. 1 in Greenwich. Police learned that a woman had entered the gas station, threatened an employee with a weapon and demanded that they give her money from the cash register. The woman was given cash and she then fled the area.

On October 14, the Valley Integrated Street Crime Enforcement Unit located the woman in Hantsport and arrested her without incident. Jessica Tonia Lea Davidson, 32, of Wolfville, has been charged with two counts of Robbery and was held in custody overnight. Davidson appeared in Kentville Provincial Court on October 15 where she was released on conditions by the Court. She will return to Kentville Provincial Court on December 7, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for the incident in Greenwich and Windsor

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Provincial Court on December 14, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. for the incident in Windsor. The investigation is ongoing.

## **Kings District RCMP Respond to “Central” High School**

Police File: 2021-1603355

Kings District RCMP responded to a complaint that indicated there was planned school violence at a local high school in Cambridge, NS. At approximately 7:45 am Kings District RCMP responded immediately with appropriate resources to Central Kings Rural High School. Kings District RCMP investigated the situation and determined there was no threat of violence to this school. Furthermore, it is believed there was a link to this situation from a post circulating in the United States regarding planned school violence toward a school with a similar name, “Central High”. It was confirmed that a local youth observed this post and elected to create a potential threat at Central Kings HS by altering the social media post. No charged resulted from this incident.

Kings District RCMP want to assure Kings County residents that police take all threats of school violence seriously and have conducted a thorough and complete investigation. Police feel that the school is safe and would like to thank those who called or messaged with concerns.

## **Kings District RCMP charge impaired driver after two vehicle collision**

Police file: 2021-1526977

On October 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:40 pm, Kings District RCMP attended a two vehicle collision on Alders Avenue in New Minas. There were no injuries to the

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occupants of the vehicles. A driver of a vehicle involved displayed signs of impairment. The driver provided a breath sample into an ASD (Approved Screening Device) which they failed. The driver was transported by police to the New Minas RCMP office for further investigation. While at the RCMP office the driver provided two samples of breath. The sample readings were over legal limit in Nova Scotia.

A 52-year-old New Minas man is now facing charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance and Operating a Conveyance with a Blood Alcohol Concentration equal to or exceeding 80 mg%.

### **Drug enforcement**

In the month of December, there has been three significant drug seizure, with some connections to Wolfville, Kentville and Kings County area with associations to Berwick as well. These three large amounts of cocaine were seized, totalling 315 grams with a street value exceeding \$35,000 worth. This has a serious impact both at the street level while being introduced in the general public and also in the health care departments with possible overdose being a reality connected to these types of narcotics. The two individuals are both facing charges of Possession for the Purpose of trafficking.

This is the example of the great work Kings District members are doing to supplement the needs to each community. Drugs seized in one community will affect all communities in the surrounding area. Stressing the importance to safer communities by being aware of the people around you in the neighbourhood and reporting any suspicious activities to police.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing of the public**

During these cold times of the year its very important that members of the public work with the RCMP to assist those in need. This is noticeable as the numbers of Mental Health and Wellbeing check calls for service are on

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the rise. Keeping those in need, safe during these inclement times is a reality and with the assistance of various groups together we are doing our best to keep them all safe.

Traffic enforcement continues to be part of the enforcement priority for the Town of Berwick. These conversations with the membership is ongoing. Responses from both Traffic Services and Kingston members are people are behaving and fewer SOT are issued.

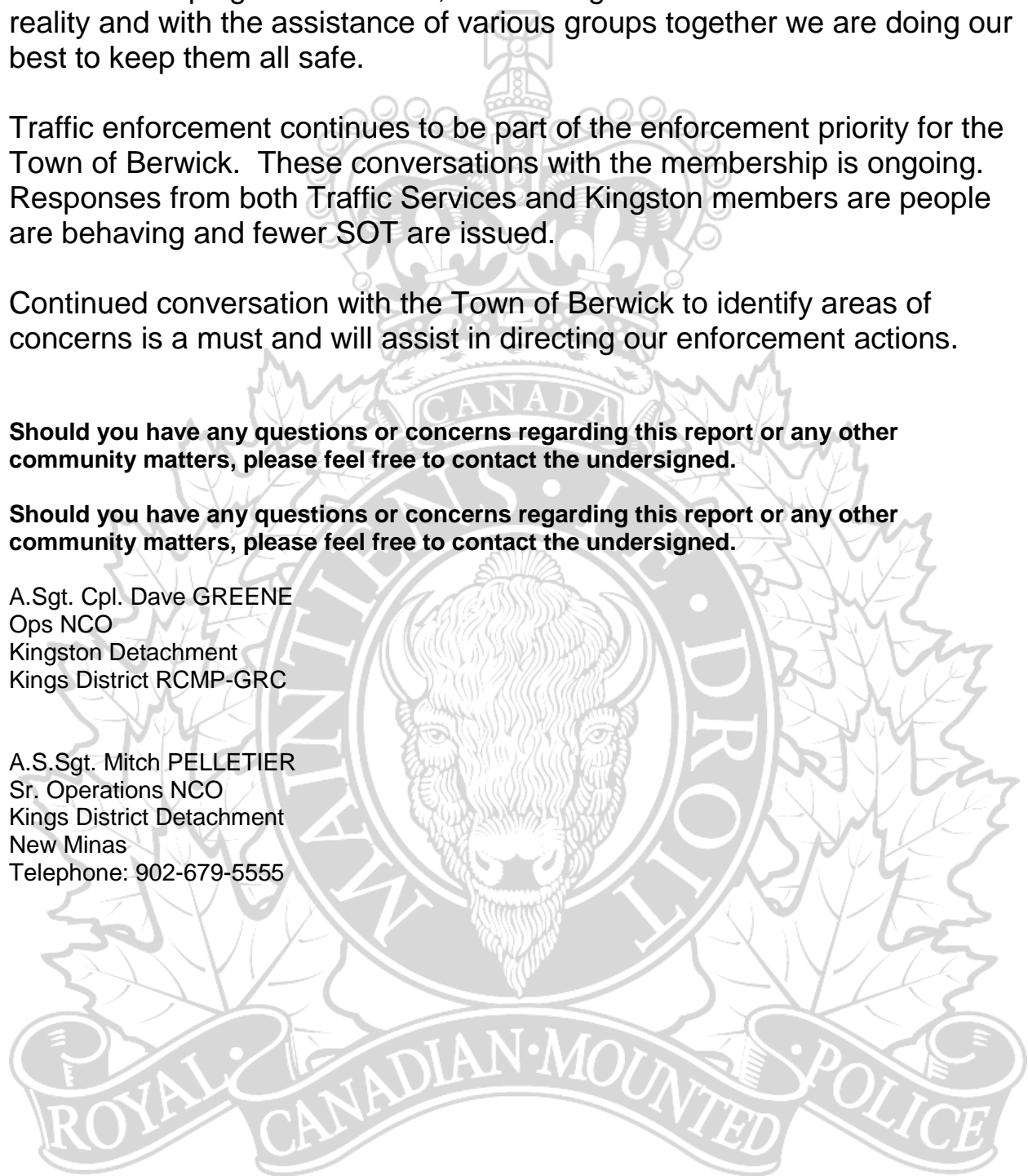
Continued conversation with the Town of Berwick to identify areas of concerns is a must and will assist in directing our enforcement actions.

**Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this report or any other community matters, please feel free to contact the undersigned.**

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